



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

June 16, 2008

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

Dear Scallop Permit Holder:

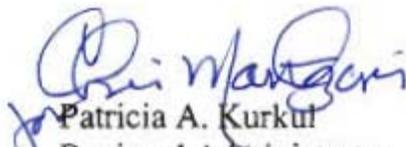
This letter is sent to inform you of a recent final rule published by the National Marine Fisheries Service that is effective on July 16, 2008. This rule modified measures under the Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery Management Plan by adding an incidental monkfish catch limit of 50 lb tail weight (166 lb whole weight) per trip in the three existing NE Multispecies scallop exemptions. The three scallop exemptions are referred to as: the Gulf of Maine Scallop Dredge Exemption Area; the Southern New England Scallop Dredge Exemption Area; and the Great South Channel Scallop Dredge Exemption Area. The coordinates for these exemptions have not changed, and are attached for your reference.

Consistent with current regulations, these exemptions are restricted to vessels issued either a General Category Atlantic sea scallop permit or a limited access Atlantic sea scallop permit, when not fishing under a scallop DAS limitation, provided they fish with small dredges (combined width not to exceed 10.5 ft). In addition to a scallop permit, in order to land an incidental catch of monkfish within these new scallop exemptions, vessels must possess, and have onboard, a valid limited access monkfish permit, or a monkfish open access Incidental Catch permit.

This letter summarizes the regulations for this exemption, but it is not a substitute for the regulatory text, which governs these matters and may be requested by calling 978-281-9315, or obtained on our website (<http://www.nero.noaa.gov>).

If you have any questions, contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978-281-9315.

Sincerely,


Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996.

Attachment



GOM Scallop Dredge Exemption Area

Point	N. lat.	W. long.
SM1	41°35'	70°00'
SM2	41°35'	69°40'
SM3	42°49.5'	69°40'
SM4	43°12'	69°00'
SM5	43°41'	68°00'
G2	43°58'	67°22'
G1	(¹)	(¹)

¹Northward along the irregular U.S.-Canada maritime boundary to the shoreline.

The SNE Scallop Dredge Exemption Area

Point	N. lat.	W. long.
Sc1	(¹)	73°00'
Sc2	40°00'	73°00'
Sc3	40°00'	71°40'
Sc4	39°50'	71°40'
Sc5	39°50'	70°00'
Sc6	(²)	70°00'
Sc7	(³)	70°00'
Sc8	(⁴)	70°00'

¹South facing shoreline of Long Island, NY; ²South facing shoreline of Nantucket, MA.

³North facing shoreline of Nantucket, MA; ⁴South facing shoreline of Cape Cod, MA.

Then bounded on the northwest by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Point	N. lat.	W. long.
Sc9	41°00'	(¹)
Sc10	41°00'	71°40'
Sc11	(²)	71°40'

¹East facing shoreline of the south fork of Long Island, NY.

²South facing shoreline of RI.

GSC Scallop Dredge Exemption Area

Point	N. lat.	W. long.
GSC 1	42°06'	69°40'
GSC 2	41°30'	69°10'
GSC 3	41°30'	69°23'
GSC 4	40°50'	68°49.2'
GSC 5	40°50'	69°29.46'
GSC 6	41°10'	69°50'
GSC 7	41°10'	70°00'
GSC 8	41°35'	70°00'
GSC 9	41°35'	69°40'